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Award Number: W81XWH-10-1-1004

TITLE: Gulf War Illness – Evaluation of an innovative detoxification program

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: David O. Carpenter, MD

CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION: State University of New York
Albany, NY 12222

REPORT DATE: December 2013

TYPE OF REPORT: Final

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE December 2013		2. REPORT TYPE Final		27Sep2010-26Sep2013	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Gulf War Illness – Evaluation of an innovative detoxification program				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER W81XWH-10-1-1004	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) David O. Carpenter, MD E-Mail: dcarpenter@aalbany.edu				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) State University of New York Albany, NY 12222				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT This project is to determine whether a widely used detoxification protocol that utilizes exercise, sauna therapy and crystalline niacin with supplements will reduce the symptoms of Gulf War Illness (GWI). The program will study 50 GWI veterans, with 25 serving as an initial control but then provided the detoxification program after a delay. All subjects will answer a questionnaire, be given a series of psychological and neurobehavioral tests, and provide blood samples for clinical chemistry analysis before and after undergoing the detoxification program. The GWI veterans will be studied at several time points, before the detoxification, immediately after and three months after completing the program. The goal of the study is to determine whether this method of detoxification results in reduction of the symptoms of GWI. Because of delays in obtaining human subjects approval this project has not yet begun. However all IRB approvals are in place, and now we await only the final DOD review and approval for beginning the study.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS Detoxification, sauna therapy, niacin, reduction of symptoms					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT	b. ABSTRACT	c. THIS PAGE			USAMRMC
U	U	U	UU	4	19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code)

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Progress to Date:

The study has not yet begun but progress has been made in surmounting several serious road blocks. The protocol and informed consent have just been approved by the Chesapeake IRB following extensive revision based on comments by DOD staff, and concurrence has been obtained from the IRBs of the three universities involved (the University at Albany, the University of Toronto and Sage Colleges). We have hired a Project Coordinator, and have developed all necessary recruitment materials, which have been approved by the Chesapeake IRB. The last of the modifications of our protocol, informed consent form and recruitment materials were forwarded to the DOD officials for their final review. In spite of significant delay we have not spent hardly any of the funds allocated to the study, and hope to request a no-cost extension to perform the study as originally proposed.

In spite of these delays, there have been no changes to the original Statement of Work.

Key Research Accomplishments: Because of the delays in beginning the project we have no accomplishments to report.

Reportable Outcomes: None at the present time.

Conclusion: We have finally overcome several obstacles and are now ready to begin this study, pending only final DOD review and approval.